

REMARKS/ARGUMENT

Claims 1 through 15 are pending and have been examined. Claims 1, 2, 6, 7, 11 and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by what was admitted to be prior art in the present application.

The Applicant has amended claim 3 to correct errors in English grammar and usage. The Applicants amendments have not in any way narrowed the scope of the amended claims from what it was previously. A marked-up version of the claims showing the changes that were made is attached hereto. The attached page is captioned “Version with markings to show changes made.”

For the reasons set forth below, the Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the rejection of claims 1, 2, 6, 7, 11 and 12.

I. Objections to the Drawings

In paragraph 2 of the Office Action, Figures 10 through 14 were objected to because they are not designated by a legend as being prior art. Attached hereto are a corrected set of drawings wherein the legend “Prior Art,” written in red ink, has been appended to each of Figures 10 through 14. The Applicant respectfully requests that the objection to the drawings be withdrawn.

Corrected Formal Drawings (Figures 10 through 14) are attached for the Examiner’s convenience. Entry is respectfully requested.

II. Objection to Claim 3

In paragraph 4 of the Office Action, claim 3 is objected to because it contains certain informalities. The Applicant has amended claim 3 to correct the informalities

specified in paragraph 4 of the Office Action. As a result, the Applicant respectfully requests that the objection to claim 3 be withdrawn.

III. Rejections Under Section 102(b)

In paragraphs 5 and 6 of the Office Action, claims 1, 2, 6, 7, 11 and 12 were rejection under Section 102(b) as being anticipated by the admitted prior art. The Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of these rejections.

Claims 1 and 2 require, among their limitations, “a search controlling unit for searching for another client terminal to which said client terminal disconnected from said access point is to be connected, and a connection controlling unit for connecting said disconnected client terminal to said searched client terminal by said search controlling unit.” Similarly, the corresponding method claims 6, 7, 11 and 12 all require “searching for, by said disconnected client terminal, another of said client terminals to which said disconnected client terminal is to be connected; and connecting said disconnected client terminal to said searched client terminal.”

The description of the prior art in the present application does not describe searching for, and connecting a disconnected client terminal to, a searched client terminal as is required by these claims. Rather, the present application states that in the prior art a disconnected client terminal would search for, and connect to when found, another access point. See e.g. Specification at 3, lines 20-32. As the Specification of the present application states in summarizing the present invention:

When a fault occurs in an access point, a client terminal connected to this access point is disconnected. Instead of connecting the disconnected client terminal to another access point as in the conventional example, the system according to the present invention connects the client terminal to another client terminal. And, through this [other] client

terminal, the disconnected client terminal connects to another access point. This prevents the load from being concentrated at another access point.

The Applicants respectfully submit that the admitted prior art does not anticipate claims 1, 2, 6, 7, 11 and 12, and request that the rejection of these claims be withdrawn.

IV. Allowable Subject Matter

The Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for noting that claims 3 through 5, 8 through 10, and 13 through 15 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. The Applicant respectfully defers rewriting these claims until after the Examiner has considered the arguments set forth above and rendered a final decision on the rejection of claims 1, 2, 6, 7, 11, and 12.

V. Conclusion

For the reasons stated above, the Applicant submits that each of pending claims 1 through 15 of the present application is in immediate condition for allowance, and the Applicant respectfully asks that the Examiner reconsider the final rejection of these claims and allow this application to be passed to issue.

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Respectfully submitted,

By 

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APPENDIX B
Version With Markings To Show Changes Made
37 CFR 1.121(b)(iii) AND (c)(ii)

CLAIMS (with indication of amended or new):

3. (Amended) The wireless local area network system as defined in Claim 1, wherein said connection controlling unit, instead of connecting said disconnected client terminal to said searched client terminal, ~~for obtaining~~ obtains communication information from said searched client terminal by said search controlling unit and ~~communicating~~ communicates with another of said access points connected to said searched client terminal.

Fig. 10

PRIOR ART

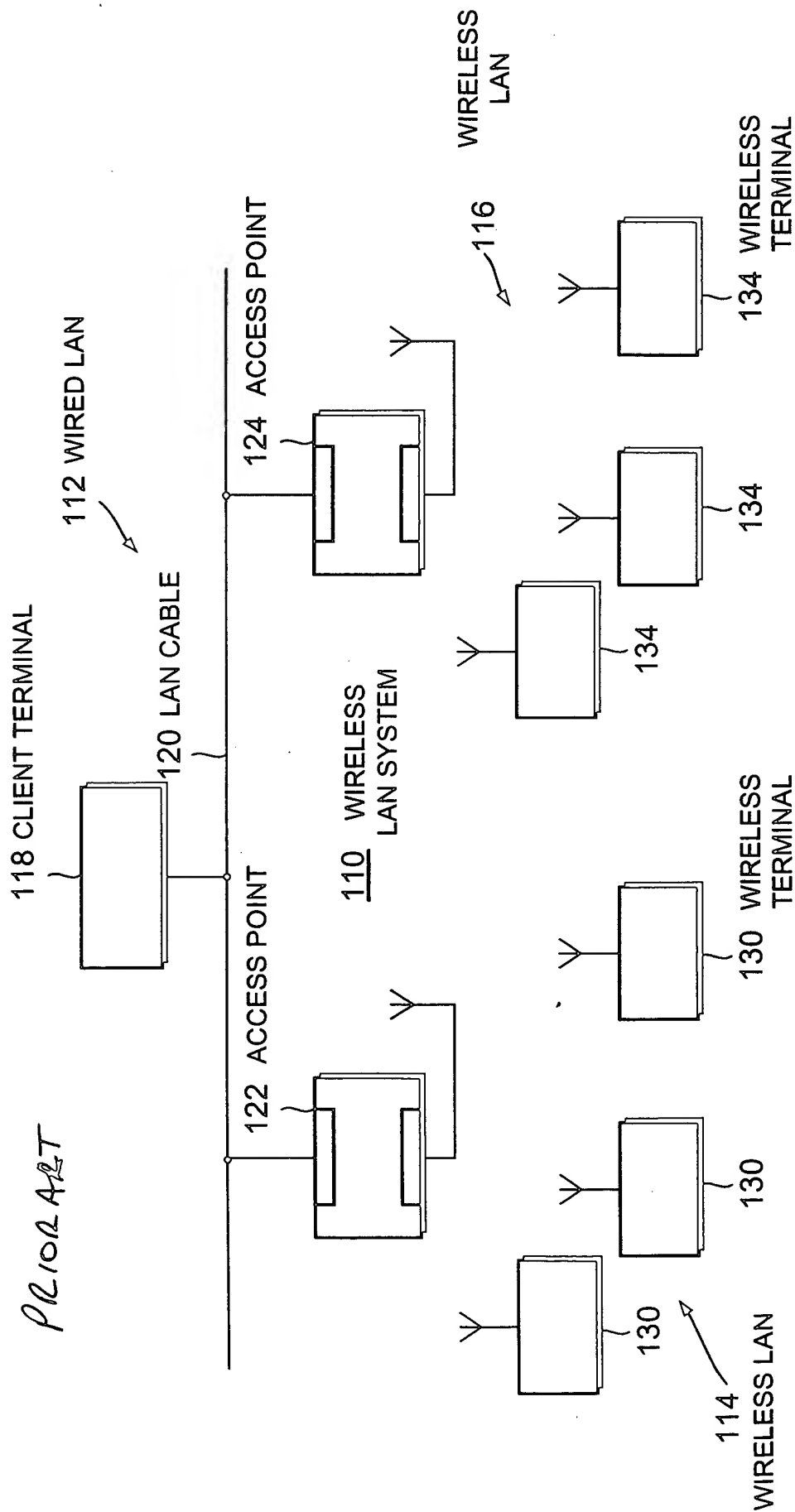


Fig. 11
PRIOR ART

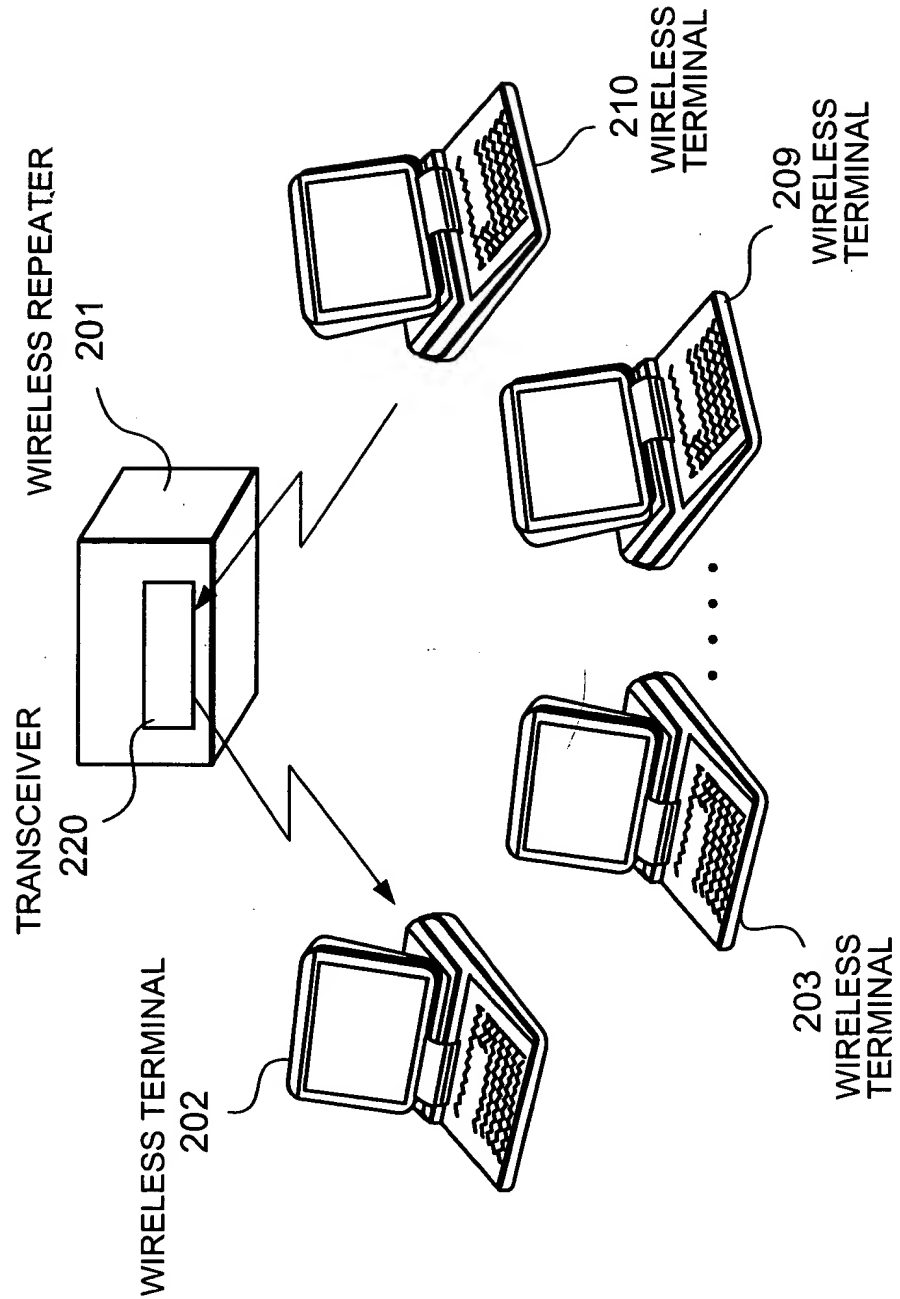


Fig. 12

PRIOR ART

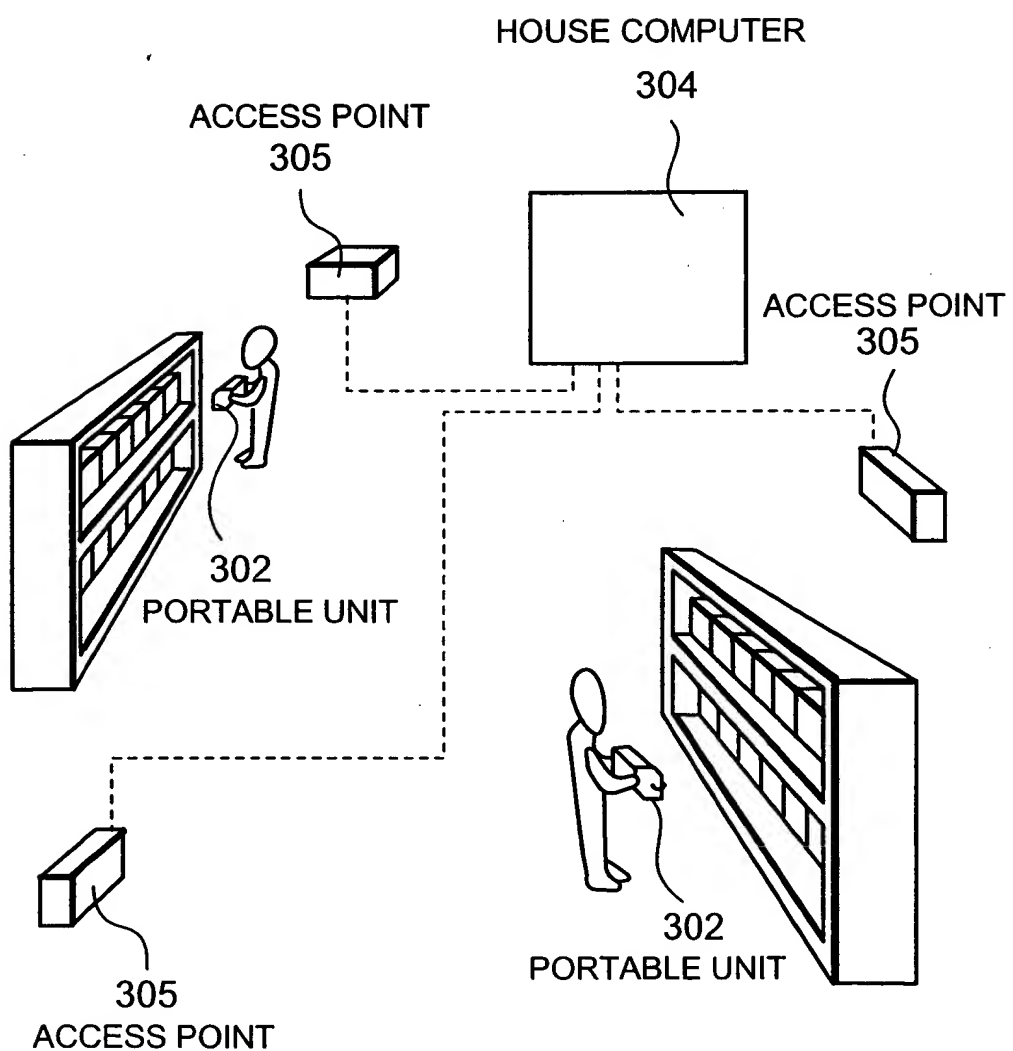


Fig. 13 *Prior Art*

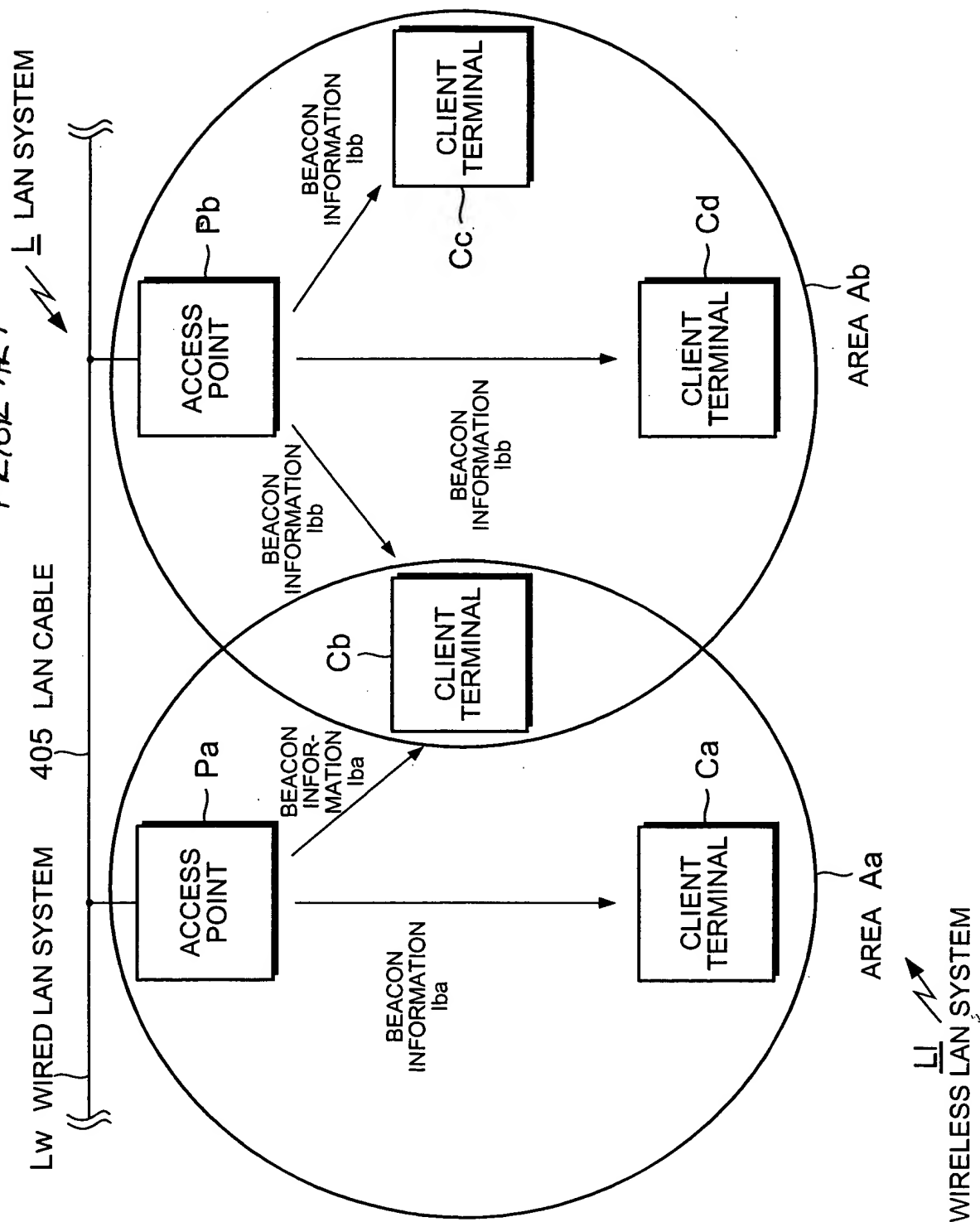


Fig. 14

PRIOR ART

